



PATENT

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#21 C
10/8/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

JOHN C. HERMANSEN *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/275,766

Filed: March 25, 1999

Art Unit: 2172

Examiner: J. Hwang

Atty Docket: 20837-007

For: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
ADAPTIVE MULTI-CULTURAL
SEARCHING AND MATCHING
OF PERSONAL NAMES**

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OCT 07 2002

Technology Center 2100

Response to Paper No. 9

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action mailed July 2, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please add claim 20. In addition, please amend claim 19 as indicated below.

19. (*Amended*) A method for retrieving information from a database based on an input of a proper name, comprising the steps of:
- identifying apparent surnames and given names that are part of the proper name;
 - determining the cultural origin or ethnicity of the inputted proper name;
 - selecting a search strategy based on the determined cultural origin or ethnicity of the proper name;